ALJ/XJV/ek4

PROPOSED DECISION

Agenda ID #13823 (Rev. 1) Adjudicatory 3/26/2015 Item #50

Decision				

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Forecast Group, L.P., Forecast Homes of California, Inc., K. Hovnanian Forecast Homes Northern California, Inc., K. Hovnanian Homes Northern California, Inc., and K. Hovnanian Communities, Inc.,

Complainants,

Case 14-05-029 (Filed May 2, 2014)

vs.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (U39E),

Defendant.

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE

Summary

The date for resolution of this complaint case is extended by six months to November 2, 2015.

1. Discussion

Pub. Util. Code § 1701.2(e) provides that adjudicatory cases shall be resolved within 12 months of the date that they are initiated unless the Commission makes findings as to why that deadline cannot be met and issues an order extending that deadline. This matter has been categorized as adjudicatory, and the 12-month deadline for resolving this proceeding is May 2, 2015.

149080248 - 1 -

After requesting and being granted an extension of time, the parties filed reply briefs on January 14, 2015. Pending review of the briefs and related motions, this complaint case has not yet been submitted for decision, though we anticipate that will occur shortly.

Following submission, the assigned Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) will file a proposed decision in accordance with Rule 14.1(b) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules). Because the parties asked to cancel hearings and move straight to briefs, no hearings were held and therefore, Rule 14.1(a), which provides for a presiding officer's decision, does not apply. A proposed decision is subject to public comment and must be filed at least 30 days before the Commission may vote on it. The Commission's April 9, 2015 voting meeting is the only one remaining before the May 2, 2015, statutory 12-month deadline; the filing deadline for the April 9, 2015, meeting is March 6, 2015. Given the demands of the ALJ's caseload, the proposed decision in this case will not be filed by March 6, 2015, though we anticipate it will be filed within the next quarter.

To ensure adequate time for the comment by the parties and for our review after the ALJ files a proposed decision, it is reasonable to approve a six-month extension of the statutory deadline to November 2, 2015.

2. Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4) of the Rules, the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of proposed decisions extending the deadline for resolving adjudicatory proceedings. Accordingly, pursuant to this rule, the otherwise applicable period for public review is being waived.

3. Assignment of Proceeding

Michael Picker is the assigned Commissioner and Jean Vieth is the assigned ALJ in this proceeding.

Findings of Fact

- 1. The 12-month deadline for resolving this complaint case is May 2, 2015.
- 2. A six-month extension of time until November 2, 2015, should give the ALJ adequate time to finalize and file a proposed decision, the parties adequate time to comment on it after it is filed, and the Commission adequate time to consider and vote on it.

Conclusions of Law

- 1. The 12-month statutory deadline imposed by Pub. Util. Code Sec. 1701.2(e) should be extended until November 2, 2015.
 - 2. This matter should be effective immediately.

IT IS ORDERED that the 12-month statutory deadline in this proceeding is extended until November 2, 2015.

This order is effect	tive immediately.
Dated	, at San Francisco, California.